WINTER CAMPING AT HOME!







girl scouts of northeastern new york











INTRODUCTION

Are you looking forward to a winter adventure? Look no further than your own backyard! Grab your mom, your dad, maybe even your brother or sister. Together you can pitch a tent or build a fort! Then get outside for some winter discoveries!

In this guide, you will find everything you will need to hold a successful winter camp out, right from your own living space! Looking for a fun way to camp with your troop while social distancing? Hold a camping Zoom Camp Party or Campfire and show off your tent/ fort and play a game online with your friends. Not sure how to do all of this? No worries! We've got you covered! Keep Reading!

- When planning this activity, Consider your start time and end time. As we offer ideas throughout this guide. We have planned a 2:00pm- 12:00pm program for you to follow and ALL times and activities can be amended to fit your timeline.

PLAN AHEAD

Start with a Family or Troop meeting: Share the idea of going on an Indoor Winter Campout and get input from the rest of your Family or Troop.

- **Pick a day that works for everyone and talk about the different things you can do during your campout.**
- **Plan your meals, pick your activities and discuss what each person needs to do to get ready for the campout.**
- **Before the campout, decide on your ground rules.**
  - **Example: If you are going to use electronics or not or how late you are going to stay up.**









Date of Campout: _____

Time of Campout: _____

List of activities you are planning:

1) _____
2)_____
3)_____
4)_____
5)_____
6)_____
7)_____
8)_____

Packing List:
TIP: BE PREPARED now, for more fun later!

1) _____
2)_____
3)_____
4)_____
5)_____
6)_____
7)_____
8)_____
9)_____
10)_____









Packing List Continued:

11)_____

12)_____

13)_____

14)_____

15) _____

16)_____

17)_____

18)_____

19)_____

20)_____

Rules for the campout:

1) _____

2)_____

3)_____

4)_____

5)_____

PREPARE FOR YOUR ADVENTURE



Meals / Camp Cookin' Menu



Fort vs. Tent



Camping Activities



Girl Scout Traditions



Online Group Games



Night Adventures



MEALS

Check out this sample menu and plan out your own cookout meals!

CAMP COOKIN' MENU

Dinner: _____

Evening Snack: _____

Breakfast: _____

Morning Snack: _____



FORT VS. TENT

You have 2 choices when it comes to sleeping indoors. Do you want to build a fort or pitch a tent? For a true camp feel, we always recommend practicing setting up a TENT (so you are ready when the weather gets warmer and you want to go camping). If you can't set up a tent in your space, work together to build a FORT somewhere in your home.

Here are some helpful tips to build a successful shelter:

TENT:

- Find a smooth, flat surface to set up camp for the night.
- Place a tarp or blanket on the ground and then set up your tent on top of it.
- Set up your tent, without the stakes of course
- Add all your bedding, pillows, blankets, and an air mattress if you have one to make the tent and padding as cozy as possible
  - Setting up a tent Indoors Video: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=1Sx8zWQRoIA
  - How to set up a tent Video: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Pf2hmFeUsbY

FORT:

- Clear out a space in your living room or another open room in your house.
- Build up your indoor camping space in any way you want
- Set up your tent, without the stakes of course
- Add blankets, pillows, couch cushions, use kitchen chairs and blankets to build a fort, the options are endless!
- Spread your blankets and pillows out
  - Building a Fort Video: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=4HPnf15i-Ls

CAMPING ACTIVITIES

Getting outside in the winter is always a unique experience. You'll probably never have the same exact experience each time you head outside. Nature is so different in the winter from any other time during the year. The Leaves are gone from the trees, the air is colder and it can change overnight! Below is a list of winter activities you can do right in your back yard, around your neighborhood or in the comfort and warmth of your own home. Look at some of the activities below and decide what you want to do!

- Start off your afternoon with some of the activities from the one of these Girl Scout Outdoor Badges for your level.


Daisy Snow Adventure


Buddy Camper


Brownie Snow Adventure

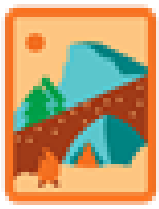

Cabin Camper

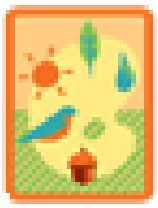

Junior Snow Adventure


Animal Habitats

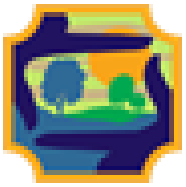

Cadette Snow Adventure


Night Owl


Senior Snow Adventure


Outdoor Art Expert


Senior Snow Adventure


Outdoor Art Maker



ADDITIONAL CAMPING ACTIVITIES







- Animal Tracking
- Leave No Trace
- Fire Building (1) (2) (3)
- Snow Painting
- Animal Habitats
- Nature Bingo
- Knots
- Leaf Rubbing
- Edible Campfire
- Night Time Scavenger Hunt
- Learn to Snowshoe
- Sledding
- Try Cross Country Skiing or Downhill Skiing
- Make a Snow Fort! Make one out of marshmallows or LEGOS for your favorite stuffed animal.
- Make a snowman or for more fun, try to build him upside down
- Ice Candles
- Create an Olympic Game or Obstacle Course

GIRL SCOUT CAMPING TRADITIONS

Girl Scout- Scouts' Own:

A "Girl Scouts' Own" is a special ceremony that expresses the spirit of Girl Scouting when the girls reflect upon their feelings about Girl Scouting and the world around them. A "Girl Scouts' Own" can have any theme, or none at all. It is a reflective time given for Girl Scouts to create a moment of their very own. It can be held at any time and include the girls' troop or be held at any inter-troop gathering.

- Example: A Scouts' Own could have: A central theme to give it unity.
  - Some aspect of the Promise or Law, such as leadership, truthfulness, honesty, etc.
  - Nature or some part of nature – trees, water, animals, etc. – or conservation.
  - Ideals, such as service, patriotism, responsibility, honor, friendship, happiness, etc.
  - Things that are considered to be universally accepted as beautiful – music, poetry, art, etc.
- Want a theme for your Scout's Own?
  - This does not need elaborate preparation, but careful planning. It can include dramatization, poetry, singing, dance, etc. While a small group does the planning, it is desirable that the program includes all participants in some way. To illustrate your theme, look for poetry, readings, songs, quotes or dramatizations that will involve your participants and give depth to the ceremony. When the Scouts Own is over, Girl Scouts quietly disperse with a feeling of inspiration and rejuvenation of Girl Scout Spirit

GIRL SCOUT TRADITIONS

Girl Scout Campfire & Sing- A- Long

- It's the winter and we are ½ way to Summer Camp! Feel a little bit warmer as you sit by a real campfire or a pretend one that is sitting in your house! Sing the night way to these camp classics. Better yet, share some time with your troop and create a sing-along! Set up a Zoom Video Call, share your Screen and Audio Settings, and sing together!
- Check out some of our songbooks or make your own!
  - GIRL POWERED Songbook
  - SPIRIT WEEK Songbook

Wish Sticks

- Each person brings a stick to the campfire. Holding it tightly in her hand, she makes a silent wish and adds her twig to the fire. - OR - Before the campfire, each girl finds a large stick. She must scrape off enough bark so that she can write a wish on it, using a magic marker. Or she can write the wish on a small piece of paper and tie it to the stick. The sticks are added to the fire during the evening. As the sticks burn, their wishes are going into the air and will come true.





ONLINE GROUP GAMES

- Eye Spy
- Simon Says
- Minute to Win It
- Never Have I Ever
- Riddles & Jokes
- Scattergories





NIGHT ADVENTURES

Are you up for a nighttime adventure? Try one of these activities to close out your night!



- Observe the night sky with Sky View App
- Make shadow puppets
- Read a book around the fire or use flashlights
- Moonlight snowshoe or walk
- Nighttime Journaling
- Continue working on your badge





SAMPLE WINTER CAMPOUT SCHEDULE

Day 1

12:00pm: Begin Preparing for your adventure. Set up your tent or Fort. Make it Cozy!

3:00pm: Head Outside before it gets dark for some Animal Tracking. Perhaps bring out a Nature Journal and record your findings and talk about them.

4:00pm: Talk about Winter Animals & Habitats. Talk about animals in winter Hibernation Vs. Migration

5:00pm Dinner Prep & Cooking

6:00pm: Eat Dinner and Clean Up

7:00pm: Scouts Own Campfire or Campfire Sing A Long

7:45pm: Night Adventures: Observe the night sky with the FREE Sky Walk App

TIP: Sip Hot Chocolate and play some games for added fun!

Day 2

8:00am: Breakfast

9:00am: Make Ice Candles

10:00am: Head Out for a winter walk or snowshoe and play Nature Bingo or try a Scavenger Hunt

11:00am Start to clean up your camping area. Take down your Tent/ Fort.

TIP: Don't forget your leave no trace rules and make sure you left your camping area better than when you found it!